THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The financial and physical progress for the above mentioned years in given below:—

Year	Target of group formation	No. of groups actually formed	Expenditure (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3	4
1994-95	247	315	62.02
1995-96	1033	1092	263.79
1996-97	1033	1033	266.68
1997-98 (upto June, 1997)	1033	53	2.26

Indo-Japan Global Energy Reserves

3713. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Japan can work together as partners for ensuring reliable access to global energy reserves;

(b) if so, whether India and Japan have already done ground work towards maritime cooperation;

(c) if so, whether any agreement between India and Japan has been reached to tie-up and ensure energy security; and

(d) if so, the details of the agreement signed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Surplus Persons In NHPC

3714. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have estimated about 5000 persons as surplus in the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof Category-wise; and

(c) the total amount of annual burden on the Corporation as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) has about 5000 staff identified as surplus.

(b) The category-wise details of surplus manpower are as under :

Executives	-	Nil
Supervisors	-	466
Workmen	-	4530
Total		4996

(c) At present the direct cost (Basic pay + DA) of carrying the surplus manpower works out to approximately Rs. 33.50 crores per annum.

Increasing Demand of Power

3715. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have assessed the quantum of power utilised in agriculture sector, industrial sector, commercial sector, domestic consumption sector and Government institutions in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the percentage each of these sectors in the annual consumption and the assessment made regarding the demand of these sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) Details of year-wise quantum of power utilised by various categories of consumers and percentage to total consumption during 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as follows:

(In Billion Units)

Sector	1992-93 %age	1993-94 %age	1994-95 %age	1995-96 %age (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5
Agriculture	63.33	70.70	79.30	85.74
	28.70	29.64	30.54	30.80
Industrial	90.17	94.50	100.13	105.29
	40.86	39.61	38.56	37.83
Commercial	12.70	14.14	15.97	16.99
	5.73	5.93	5.15	6.11

1	2	3	4	5
Domestic	39.71	43.34	47.92	52.54
	——	——	——	——
	18.00	18.17	18.46	18.87
Government	18.07	18.97	20.15	23.54
Institutions	——	——	——	——
	8.19	7.95	7.76	8.46

The data for the year 1996-97 has so far not become available.

Projections made in 15th Electric Power Survey for energy demand for various sectors for 2001-02 is as follows :

Sector	(Million Units)
Domestic	105585.52
Commercial	31558.72
Government Institutions	24426.35
Agriculture	108249.19
Industrial	175092.96
Other	4083.04

Post Offices Run by Private Persons

3716. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Post Offices in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh which are being run by the Private persons, district-wise;

(b) the number of persons who are being paid salary by the Government and the amount of monthly salary thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to take over such Post Offices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) There is no Post Office which is run by Private persons. Post Offices are manned either by Departmental employees of Extra departmental employees who are appointed by the Department.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Train Accidents

3717. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of train accidents which have occurred between Beena and Hoshangabad in Madhya Pradesh during each of the last three years;

(b) the causes of the above accidents;

(c) the details of compensation provided to those killed and injured in these accidents; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that no such accidents take place in the said area in future?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Information is as under :

1994-95: 7 (Collision - 1, Derailments - 6)

1995-96: 1 (Level crossing)

1996-97: 8 (Derailments - 6, Level crossing -1 and fire in train - 1)

(b) Human failure and equipment failure.

(c) Compensation will be paid soon after the claims are decreed by the Railway claims Tribunal. However, an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 56,000/- has been paid to the dependents of killed and to the injured in these accidents.

(d) Some of the steps taken to prevent accidents are as under:

(i) The work of track circuiting has been accelerated on the trunk routes and other important main lines.

(ii) Modification of the signalling circuitry is being carried out to minimise chances of human errors in causing accidents.

(iii) There has been progressive increase in use of Tie Tamping and ballast cleaning machines for track maintenance.

(iv) For monitoring track geometry and running characteristics of the track, sophisticated track recording cars, oscillograph care and portable accelerometer are being progressively used.

(v) Maintenance facilities for coaches and wagons have been modernised and upgraded at many depots.

(vi) To prevent cases of cold breakage of axles, ROH Depots have been equipped with ultrasonic testing equipment for detection of flaws in the axles.

(vii) Whistle boards/speed breakers and road signs have been provided at unmanned level crossings and visibility for drivers has been improved.

(viii) Audio-visual publicity campaigns to educate road users on how to make a safe crossing are conducted.

(ix) Steps have been taken to prevent inflammable and explosive materials from being carried in passenger trains.